Usability Principles (Heuristics)

Use words, phrases, and concepts familiar to the user. Present information in a natural and logical order.

2. Consistency.
Indicate similar concepts through identical terminology and graphics. Adhere to uniform conventions for layout, formatting, typefaces, labeling, and so on.

Take advantage of recognition rather than recall. Do not force users to remember key information across documents.

4. Flexibility and efficiency of use.
 Accommodate a range of user sophistication and diverse user goals. For example: guide novice users through a series of progressive steps leading to the desired goal, but allow expert users to directly reach their destination.

5. Aesthetic and minimalist design.
Create visually pleasing displays. Eliminate information that is irrelevant or distracting.

Write material so that documents are short and contain exactly one topic. Ideally, a document should fit on a single display page. Do not force the user to access multiple documents to complete a single thought.

7. Progressive levels of detail.
Organize information hierarchically, with more general information appearing before more specific detail. Allow the user to delve as deeply as needed, but to stop whenever sufficient information has been received.

8. Navigational feedback.
Allow the user to determine her or his current position in the document structure. Make it easy to return to an initial state.

Contributing Sources:
2. Albert L. Lederer, Donna J. Maupin, Mark P. Sena, Youlong Zhuangm CM. Gatton College of Business and Economics University of Kentucky Lexington, KY The Role of Ease of Use, Usefulness and Attitude In The Prediction of World Wide Web Usage CACM 1998